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Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 29 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from the Government of the Republic of Panama, I have the honour to inform you of Panama's position on the proposal contained in the note dated 1 August 2002 that was transmitted to you by the representatives of the Governments of Burkina Faso, Chad, El Salvador, the Gambia, Grenada, the Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, the Solomon Islands and Swaziland, in which they requested the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations".

As on previous occasions, the Government of Panama wishes to place on record its view that the purposes and principles of the United Nations must be applied to the situation in Taiwan, provided that the Chinese people are able to resolve its differences through dialogue and negotiation without any external interference.

The note sent to you by representatives of the Governments of Burkina Faso, Chad, El Salvador, the Gambia, Grenada, the Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, the Solomon Islands and Swaziland clearly states that the United Nations should play "a facilitating role by providing a forum for reconciliation and rapprochement between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China". The Republic of Panama supports that proposal and wishes to reiterate that the question under consideration, being an extremely sensitive domestic issue for the Chinese people, must be resolved through respectful dialogue and mutual understanding; the United Nations can and should encourage that dialogue.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this note circulated as a document of the General Assembly in connection with the request for the inclusion

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of a supplementary item in the provisional agenda relating to the question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

(*Signed*) Ramon **Morales Quijano**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative